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OMENS SAID TO INSURE LUCK

Happenings That Foretell Coming Good Fortune Are Worth Keeping in the Memory.

We must all have noticed how many unlucky omens there are, and how few signs that foretell good fortune. It has been well explained that we need to be prepared for bad luck, but that good fortune does not require to be guarded against.

All the same, it would certainly add to the cheerfulness of life in general if lucky omens were more widely known, says London Answers. How much brighter things look to us if we have reason to hope that something good is coming to us!

Everybody, of course, knows that it is lucky to pick up a bit of iron or coal. So it is to pick up a pin if its head is toward you; if not, let it lie!

It is, of course, a sign of good fortune to put on some garment inside out, but only if it is done by accident, and the garment is allowed to remain reversed during the day. William the Conqueror put on his mail-shirt back to front on the morning of the battle of Hastings, and we all know what luck he had on that occasion!

If you find your keys or other steel articles rusting, do not be annoyed about it; it only shows that somebody is putting money by for you.

It is lucky to be followed home by a stray dog. Still better it is if a strange cat comes to stay at the house. Speaking of cats, pessimists, of course, assert that when they tear the furniture with their claws, it is a sign of rain; but others hold that they are "scratching luck" to their masters.

NOT ALL INDULGE IN KISS

Many People Know Nothing of Occasion, at Least as Masculine Form of Greeting.

The kiss, which appears constantly in Semitic and Aryan antiquity, as in the Book of Genesis, "The Odyssey," and in Herodotus' description of the Persians of his time kissing one another, and which is still prevailing even among men in France and the Slav countries, relates a writer in the Louisville Courier-Journal, seems to be unknown over the entire world, where the prevailing salute is that of sniffing or smelling which belongs to the Polynesians, Malays, Burmese and other Chinese, Mongols, etc., extending thence eastward to the Eskimo and westward to Lapland, where Lynnaeus saw relatives saluting by putting their noses together.

Among the manners and customs of the French allies in France, which most American soldiers "over there" saw for the first time, nothing probably seemed stranger to them than the practice of kissing among men.

As for the custom of kissing men on both cheeks, that has come down from the days when young French noblemen, about to be knighted for some valiant deed, spent 24 hours in solitude and prayer and then came forth, kneeling, received the stroke of the sword across their backs and were kissed by the knight who was conferring knighthood. Napoleon, when he formed the Legion of Honor, eliminated many of the old customs, keeping the touch of the sword and the kiss.

History of Brooklyn Bridge.

Brooklyn bridge, the first bridge to span the East river, is over a mile in length and cost to date more than \$25,000,000, estimates the Automobile Blue Book. It has been numbered among the seven wonders of the world. Designed by John A. Roebling, this masterpiece in engineering was started January, 1870, and opened to traffic May, 1883. During the preliminary work John Roebling met his death. His son, William A., took up the task of completion. He was subsequently seriously injured by fire while in one of the catwalks and became an invalid. In compliance with his wish he was stationed in a home on the heights of Brooklyn, from which, with the aid of a telescope and the assistance of his wife, he directed the work from his window until the last rivet was driven.

Canine Curiosity.

The curiosity of the dog is pronounced if observed for a few minutes. It is quick to notice a strange dog or person and the value of the watchdog comes from the fact that it wants to investigate every noise. It is very interesting to watch a dog when it meets a beetle. At first he seems to be a little afraid of the tiny creature, but finally he can't resist any longer, so he plucks up enough courage to touch it with his paw. Then, realizing that it has not hurt him, he smells it and rolls it over and over with his nose. Then, after he has satisfied his curiosity, he walks away and leaves the beetle to go its way if he has not put it out of commission with the strenuousness of the investigation.

Pennsylvania's Blue Laws.

Pennsylvania's blue law, enacted April 22, 1794, and entitled "An act for the prevention of vice and immorality and for other good purposes," has survived all the assaults of those who would destroy it. The legislators of 1794 regarded it as being vastly more wicked to shoot a rabbit on Sunday than to drink a hot toddy. One offender was tagged with a fine of \$25, the other a shilling and a half. It was impossible under a strict enforcement of that law to operate a canal boat, a railroad train, a street railway car, a cab or call any commodity from a loaf of bread to a package of chewing gum.

"Zouave" From Algiers.

"Zouave" is the French name taken from that of a tribe in Algiers and this kind of light infantry was first employed in that country in 1831, the members being Algerians and dressing in semi-Moorish uniforms. Other countries, including the United States, have adopted the Zouave system since. In the Civil war, and the Italian assault upon Rome in 1870, they were conspicuous. In the latter case "defending the papal supremacy."

OBJECTIONABLE

By JACK LAWTON.

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Parkville was in a state of agitation. Summer after summer, the sleepy, pretty village had gone on its peaceful way. Parkville maidens, clad in crisp muslin frocks, sat upon well-ordered verandas or porches, awaiting the companionship of Parkville's single, young men—still the proper, worthy maidens waited—with the difference, the young men failed to arrive as usual, to pay their bantering, attentive calls.

And the trouble of all this laxity had arrived and registered at Parkville's one hotel. That a young and unaccompanied woman should brave the publicity of the corner hotel, had before been unheard of. And that she should in addition waive all conventionality aside and freely talk and laugh with men whom she had met only in their various places of business was—in Parkville—no less than scandalous. And the stranger's offense, which overshadowed all others, in the eyes of the village maidens, was the glowing beauty of the girl and the new and daring charm of her. William Thayer, the admired and important young lawyer, had boldly escorted Miss Ginny Tyler—such was the frivolous name of the newcomer—down the broad walk of Main street in plain view of almost the entire population of Parkville, when she had called at his office upon some foolish pretext. At least, William's mother assured the girls that this "Ginny" had made a trivial excuse to visit the office, she was sure, for William refused to explain the reason. Thereafter William, in defiance of anger or ridicule, was often seen at Miss Tyler's side, while a former supposed sweet heart made bitter remarks concerning his new allegiance. Doctor Jim, son of old Doctor James, was the stranger's next victim, and though Doctor Jim's repeated presence upon the obnoxious hotel veranda was followed by a prompt falling off of invitations elsewhere, Doctor Jim continued—in the hotel keeper's words—"to beat Bill Thayer to it."

Paul Thornton was an estimable man, and young Parkville maidens evidenced a new and admirable interest in the church of their fathers.

"The right man at last," said old Everett Fairfax, the wealthiest man of the town, to which Ruth, his daughter, silently and sullenly agreed.

Paul Thornton was a frequently invited visitor at the pretentious Fairfax home, and it was from these portals that Ruth saw the thing which threatened at its beginning the young preacher's success. She had fairly glimpsed with animosity the strange girl's approach, when the Reverend Paul, leaving the parlor door, could be seen hurrying eagerly after. Ruth caught her breath in shocked surprise as that admired young man not only took quick possession of Miss Ginny Tyler's hand, but drew it protectively through his own arm, and the two went strolling up the hill toward what was known as "The Lovers' Walk."

Events following this episode caused Parkville itself to hold its breath in shocked surprise. For the shepherd of this worthy flock might be seen at almost any hour of the day devotedly and openly in the street company, while Billie Thayer and Doctor Jim waited sulkily upon the deserted hotel veranda. And as Paul Thornton persisted in his rashness, old Fairfax decided upon Ruth's promptings to take up the matter with the great Doctor West of the city. Doctor West's fame as one of the best preachers of the time was broadest; astonishingly and unexpectedly, the noted man sent reply that he would prefer visiting Parkville and discussing the case in person. The Rev. Paul had been accepted in the Parkville church upon Doctor West's own request.

A committee was waiting to receive him when he arrived at the Fairfax home in an automobile, and with regretful and serious face Parkville's wealthiest citizen arose to voice the complaint of his people. "We can't keep a man whose actions are questionable," he blushed, "and Paul Thornton is openly devoting himself to a questionable character. A girl who won't tell where she came from or what she's here for. Who lives by herself in a hotel, and dresses like an actress. Who don't mix in with our girls but carries on with the men."

Doctor West considered. "I would like," he said at last, "to have you send for Paul Thornton and the young woman of whom you speak, and bring them before me."

It was Ruth who flew to the telephone and Ruth who admitted the guilty two when they answered the summons. But in the girl's lovely face there was no embarrassment of guilt while Paul Thornton rushed forward joyfully to shake his superior's hand. But the breathless, shocking moment came, when Ginny Tyler, all unashamed, ran straight into the great man's arms. Over her lovely head he smiled at them.

"My daughter?" he announced gravely. "She came under her mother's maiden name to stay among you, and try to find welcome. It was her wish to visit you, and find friendship for herself before coming to stay here permanently as your pastor's wife. Paul Thornton and my daughter Virginia have been for some time, and with my complete sanction—be trothed."

See Al St. Johns in "Cleaning Up"—Idlehour Monday and Tuesday.—adv
Mary Pickford in "Pollyanna"—Idlehour Friday.—adv

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